Women Harassment Over the Years (2018-2022): Analytical Report

Prepared by: Diksha Mukeshkumar Singh

Contact: diksha9024@gmail.com / linkedin.com/in/diksha-singh-155b01336

1. Introduction

Project Overview

This project provides an analytical view of crime data across districts in India, focusing on crimes against women. The analysis incorporates demographic, geographical, and social aspects to identify patterns, trends, and critical areas for policy intervention and public safety measures.

Importance of the Topic

Women's safety remains a pressing issue worldwide. Understanding crime trends and the effectiveness of support mechanisms is crucial for policymakers, law enforcement agencies, and NGOs to implement meaningful interventions.

Objectives

- Analyze crime trends over the years (2018-2022).
- Identify regional and demographic variations in crimes against women.
- Examine the effectiveness of support services in addressing cases.
- Highlight the most unsafe regions based on reported crimes.

2. Dataset Details

Source of Data

National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)

• Years Covered: 2018 to 2022

Key Data Columns

- **Crime Types**: Rape, Kidnapping & Abduction, Dowry Deaths, Assault on Women, Cruelty by Husband/Relatives.
- **Regions**: State/UT, Urban/Rural classifications.

• **Demographics**: Age groups, population estimates.

Challenges Faced

- Missing data for some regions.
- Complexity in categorizing crimes.
- Limited information on specific demographic factors.

3. Analysis & Insights

3.1 Crime Trends Over Time

- **Increase in Reported Cases**: Crime against women has shown a fluctuating yet rising trend in multiple regions.
- **Significant Rise in Assault Cases**: Assault on women with intent to outrage modesty recorded the highest increase.
- **Kidnapping & Abduction**: A steady increase in abduction cases, especially among younger age groups.

3.2 Regional & Demographic Analysis

- **Urban vs. Rural Divide**: Urban areas report higher cases due to increased reporting awareness, while rural cases may be underreported.
- **Age Group Trends**: Women aged **19-30** are most affected across multiple crime categories.
- **Most Affected States**: Certain states consistently show high crime rates, demanding urgent attention.

3.3 Top 5 Unsafe States (2018-2022)

Based on reported cases, the **top 5 states with the highest crime rates** against women are:

- 1. Uttar Pradesh
- 2. Maharashtra
- 3. Rajasthan
- 4. Madhya Pradesh
- 5. West Bengal

3.4 Support Services Effectiveness

• **Limited Access to Helplines:** Data suggests a gap between crime occurrence and helpline access.

- **NGO Interventions:** Some regions show a positive trend where NGOs have actively engaged in victim support.
- Legal Actions Taken: Case closure rates remain inconsistent across states.
- Notable NGOs Making an Impact:
 - SEWA (Self Employed Women's Association): Works extensively in rural areas to support women's rights and provide legal aid.
 - o **Guria India:** Focuses on combatting human trafficking and sexual violence.
 - Majlis Legal Centre: Provides free legal aid to women victims of violence.
 - SNEHA (Society for Nutrition, Education, and Health Action): Works in urban slums and rural areas to reduce gender-based violence.
 - Janodaya Trust: Supports women in distress through helplines and rehabilitation programs.
 - Shakti Shalini: Provides shelter homes and support services for domestic violence victims.
 - Vanangana: Works in Uttar Pradesh's rural areas to provide justice to survivors of gender-based violence.
 - ActionAid India: Focuses on empowering marginalized communities, including women facing violence.
 - AALI (Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives): Provides legal aid and advocacy for women's rights.

4. Key Findings & Recommendations

Key Observations

- Crime rates have shown an overall increase from 2018 to 2022.
- Some regions report significantly higher crime rates due to demographic and socioeconomic factors.
- Women aged 19-30 are the most vulnerable demographic.
- Support services and helplines need wider reach and awareness.

Recommendations

- **Enhanced Legal Enforcement**: Strengthening law enforcement mechanisms in high-crime areas.
- Awareness Campaigns: Educating women on their rights and support services available.

- Increased Helpline Accessibility: Ensuring helpline numbers are well-publicized and accessible.
- **Better Data Reporting & Transparency**: Encouraging accurate reporting of cases in rural areas.
- Community Programs: Implementing self-defense training and awareness programs.
- **Expansion of NGO Reach**: Encouraging more NGOs to set up support centers in high-crime rural areas.

5. Conclusion

The data highlights significant challenges but also opportunities for change. While the numbers may seem alarming, they serve as a call to action.

However, there is **hope and progress**. The increasing number of NGOs and awareness campaigns in rural areas are playing a crucial role in bridging the gap between victims and justice. Initiatives such as **legal aid camps**, **self-defense training**, **and helpline accessibility** are making a difference in women's lives.

By fostering community involvement, legal empowerment, and educational programs, we can create a safer and more supportive environment for women. Every individual, organization, and policymaker has a role in shaping a future where women feel protected, valued, and empowered.

Together, we can turn insights into action and build a society where safety and respect are fundamental rights for all.

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